

APPROVED MINUTES OF THE STATE OF IDAHO PROFESSIONAL  
STANDARDS COMMISSION MEETING OF AUGUST 6-7, 2007

**ATTENDANCE**

Members present at August 6 committee meetings: Tama Bergstrand, Diane Boothe, Becky Ford, Bonnie Gallant, Jeri Anne Lee, Stephanie Olsen, Glenn Orthel, Brad Patzer, Carolyn Rapp, Sue Skeen, Nick Smith, Laurie Snyder, Don Soltman. SDE staff present: Christina Linder, Cina Oravez, Keith Potter, Karen Seay. Absent: Sharlea Alsager, Dennis Cartwright, Jann Hill; Loretta Stowers.

Members present at August 7 general meeting: Tama Bergstrand, Diane Boothe, Becky Ford, Bonnie Gallant, Jeri Anne Lee, Stephanie Olsen, Glenn Orthel, Brad Patzer, Carolyn Rapp, Sue Skeen, Nick Smith, Laurie Snyder, Don Soltman, Loretta Stowers. SDE staff present: Christina Linder, Cina Oravez, Keith Potter, Karen Seay. Absent: Sharlea Alsager, Dennis Cartwright, Jann Hill. Guests: Allison McClintick, Jim Shackelford.

**INTRODUCTIONS**

Chair Tama Bergstrand introduced new Commission members Brad Patzer, Carolyn Rapp, and Laurie Snyder. Brad represents secondary classroom teachers and is from St. Maries Joint School District #41. Carolyn represents secondary school principals and is an assistant principal with Boise School District #1. Laurie represents school counselors and is with Nampa School District #131.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Tama asked committee chairs/members to do the following while in their meetings: 1) produce any possible budget ideas for the remainder of 2007-2008 and also for 2008-2009 and provide those ideas to Don Soltman by the afternoon of September 6; 2) update the Commission Procedures Manual and strategic plan in regard to respective committees and forward any changes to Karen Seay.

**AGENDA REVIEW/REVISIONS/APPROVAL**

Tama asked Commission members to add State Board Meeting Attendance under New Business on the September 7 agenda.

Motion: (Skeen/Lee---CARRIED) to approve the September 6-7, 2007, Commission meeting agenda as revised.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: (Soltman/Orthel---CARRIED) to approve the May 31 – June 1, 2007, Commission meeting minutes as printed.

## ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Christina Linder (unless indicated otherwise) reported on the following:

1. Christina, Sue Skeen, and Cina Oravez all attended the NASDTEC Annual Conference in Salt Lake City in early June. Christina reported that one of the main concerns discussed was the need to get all states more evenly aligned so there is greater opportunity for reciprocity and mobility of certificates. In light of the fact that a majority of states are using a successful passing rate on the Praxis test to add endorsements to teacher certificates, Christina posed the following compromise to the Commission as additional requirements in such a situation: a temporary or interim certificate followed by one to two years of successful experience being monitored and having oversight to ensure the teacher has strong practices and can communicate related information effectively.

Sue Skeen reported on a conference session that she attended on teacher induction practices around the world. In Europe, teachers are paid more than engineers or lawyers, and every new teacher must have a full-time teacher as a mentor. Other countries experiencing teacher shortages are offering to finance the education of individuals to become teachers.

2. As part of the mentoring work begun by the State Board approximately two years ago, Christina and Allison McClintick attended an induction conference at the New Teacher Center in Santa Cruz in late June. A group of Idaho teachers have now completed two years of training at the center in order to become trainers. These trainers will return to 30 districts in the state to train mentors to work with new teachers. The conference dealt with the background, administrative pieces, data collection, and other aspects needed to oversee the program until it is eventually given over to the legislature. There is sufficient funding to sustain the program for another two years, and hopefully by then there will be sufficient consensus that the program is worth maintaining.
3. Some Certification/Professional Standards items on the agenda at the June State Board meeting included the sunseting of the technology requirement and additional work on increasing/clarifying the standards that new teachers need to have in order to get into the classroom.
4. Certification/Professional Standards staff recently met briefly with visiting Educational Testing Service (ETS) personnel. Topics discussed included

reviewing current Praxis cut scores/recommending new cut scores and also another testing option for Idaho teachers that would be more performance-based.

5. The Department of Education remodeling project is 50 percent completed. When finished, there will be three conference rooms available for use. The proposed completion is scheduled for the end of September
6. The Annual Superintendents' Conference was held August 1 in Nampa. Staff members presented information on certification and alternative certification.
7. Idaho mathematics standards for grades 11 and 12 were never written. Later this month a committee of 20 to 30 people from across the state will convene to discuss and set those standards under the direction of the Department of Education math coordinator. The standards will be written so they tie to specific courses.
8. Letters were recently distributed to various superintendents and principals notifying them that specific teachers within their buildings did not have, in the Department of Education database, a HOUSSE rubric or Praxis for every one of their assignments. All have complied with what was requested of them.
9. The IBEDS manual is being revised. The content of it has been reduced over 50 percent, and it is much more user-friendly.
10. In the area of deaf/blind certification, we have been working on a preliminary basis with the transition coordinators of both the deaf and hearing-impaired and the visually-impaired teams to properly certify those who will be helping the deaf and to review the endorsement in the current Certification Manual for working with the visually-impaired.
11. The middle school, math, and rural initiatives are in the beginning discussion phase of looking at these areas in which Idaho lags behind. Christina urged Commission members (or those they know of) to present at or listen in on those discussions by contacting Rob Sauer (middle school), Cindy Johnstone (math), or Nick Smith (rural) in the Department of Education.
12. Keith Potter, Shannon Haas, Chris Kronberg, Tama Bergstrand, Sue Skeen, and Loretta Stowers will attend the NASDTEC Professional Practices Institute in Orlando in mid-October.

## **STATE BOARD REPORT**

Allison McClintick, Educator Policy Program Manager in the State Board office, reported on the following:

1. The State Board is involved in an ongoing project of gathering information on commonalities/differences in every area of the state's higher education institutions. Engineering was reviewed first and now, more recently, the colleges of education. The deans provided their information at the June State Board meeting. All institutions offer elementary and secondary; offer some level of both a master's and a doctorate program (except for Lewis-Clark State College); are directing effort toward increasing the number of math and science teachers; and foster communication by having their deans meet regularly with the superintendents in their areas. All institutions agreed there is an ineffective data-collecting system for determining their effectiveness in producing teachers needed in the classroom and what can be done differently.

Christina Linder reported briefly to the Commission on two teacher attrition data-collecting projects she is working on – one being data-collecting at the time of a person's initial teacher certification and then again at recertification and the other being a survey to superintendents and principals asking how well institutions prepare new teachers to the standards.

2. At the upcoming August State Board meeting, the transition coordinators working on the separation of deaf education and blind education in the state will present an idea of what the proposed program will look like regionally. A July 2009 implementation is being planned.
3. The State Board is working on the special education on-line curriculum for para-professional certification. They hope to have the first cohort starting in January of 2008.
4. As a part of the mentoring project, Christina and I attended an induction institute at the New Teacher Center in Santa Cruz (see **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**, page 2, item 2), where the emphasis was how a state or large district can put a structured, research-oriented mentoring system into place. We have requested additional funding from the Commission as we move forward with that effort. The core teacher standards and the mentor program standards are being developed, and more meetings are scheduled.

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Chair Tama Bergstrand reported that the Executive Committee met by telephone conference in July to update the upcoming meeting agenda and review issues that needed to go to committees.

Budget Subcommittee Chair Don Soltman called Commission attention to the fiscal year 08 budget total of \$458,137 and the fact that the Commission has spending authority for only \$438,137, thus making a \$20,000 difference. In an effort to re-balance the 08 budget to the designated amount of \$438,137, committees met to reduce

certain individual budget line items in the following manner to make up the \$20,000 amount:

Standards Committee/Prep Program Review Procedure – decrease by	\$8,435
Standards Committee/Prep Program Review & Focus Visits – decrease by	3,000
Ethics Committee/Investigations/Hearings/Training – decrease by	8,000
Executive Committee/SBOE Meetings – decrease by	565
Total	\$20,000

Don noted that the line item of NCATE Representation Dues of \$3,150 in the fiscal year 08 budget is a change; it was previously paid from the general fund.

Motion: (Orthel/Ford---CARRIED) to approve the FY 08 Commission budget with discussed changes for a total of \$438,137.

It is to be noted that Sue Skeen and Stephanie Olsen abstained in the above-mentioned vote.

Don reported that in the fiscal year 09 Commission budget there is projected revenue of \$364,000 and anticipated carryover of \$200,000, bringing the total amount available to \$564,000. Recommended revisions to the budget were as follows: increasing Salaries, Benefits from \$200,367 to \$206,367; increasing Commission Prof Dev & Training from \$1,500 to \$11,500; increasing SBOE Meetings under Executive from \$1,000 to \$2,000; reducing Prep Program Review Re-Write under Standards by \$8,435 in FY 08 and adding that amount to Prep Program Review Re-Write in FY 09; increasing Prep Program Review & Focus Visits & Training from \$14,000 to \$17,000; increasing Prof Development Fund under Prof Development Committee from \$30,000 to \$168,000; and reducing Employee Travel Costs from \$7,000 to \$6,678.

Motion: (Ford/Lee---CARRIED) to approve the FY 09 budget as amended.

Commission members spent considerable time discussing the over-budget expenditures in the FY 07 Commission budget. Commission members requested 1) a breakdown of the \$90,521 Salaries, Benefits expense for June of 2007 and 2) a listing of the salaries that the Commission is paying. Nick Smith agreed to provide those.

Motion: (Soltman/Stowers---CARRIED) to approve the over-budget expenditures in the FY 07 Commission budget as stated in the budget report.

## **AUTHORIZATIONS COMMITTEE**

The Authorizations Committee recommended that the Professional Standards Commission approve the following renewal Teacher to New Certificate requests:

RHODIG, Phyllis, New Plymouth #372, Standard Exceptional Child-Birth-Grade 3 (2)  
STARRY, Kirk, Meridian #2, Standard Secondary-Speech (2)

The Authorizations Committee recommended that the Professional Standards Commission approve the following new Teacher to New Certificate requests:

BODECKER, Ryan, West Bonner County #83, Standard Secondary-Physical Education  
DOWNING, Vicki, Boundary County #101, Standard Secondary-Math  
FALES, Melinda, West Bonner County #83, Standard Secondary-Physical Education  
LUCKEY, Teresa, West Bonner County #83, Administration-Principal  
NORWOOD, Roberta (Kim), Boundary County #101, Pupil Personnel Services  
Certificate-School Counselor

Chair Jeri Anne Lee reported that 17 Provisional Authorizations were issued since the last Commission meeting. No information has been provided by ABCTE for the current number of completers of their program for Idaho. The Department of Education has issued 101 interim certificates to ABCTE completers.

*The Professional Standards Commission PASSED and approved the Authorizations Committee report.*

## **ETHICS COMMITTEE**

*The Ethics Committee moved into Executive Session to review and discuss investigation records as prescribed by Idaho Code §67-2345(d).*

*The Ethics Committee moved into Open Session to vote on investigation records as prescribed by Idaho Code §67-2345(d).*

Case #20701 – One-Year Suspension

Hearings were requested in the following cases: #20317; #20706; #20608; #20416.

The following cases were closed: #20614; #20708.

Tama reported that the Ethics Committee is requesting that a form of communication go out to all superintendents advising them that a revised Code of Ethics is now available. Hard copies of the pamphlet are available upon request. Further revisions of the document will be made in the future. Tama asked Commission members to discuss the current Code of Ethics with people they work with for ideas on items that should be

covered in the document and then report those ideas to her by the October Commission meeting.

## STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Standards Committee member Becky Ford (unless indicated otherwise) reported on the following:

1. The committee's strategic plan and Procedures Manual revisions will be put on its October meeting agenda.
2. The committee will begin preliminary work on aligning the *Certification Manual*, *Idaho Standards for Initial Certification of Professional School Personnel* (effective 7/1/07), and *Idaho Standards for Initial Certification of Professional School Personnel* (effective 7/1/08) with one another. The effort will be kept at the preliminary stage rather than moving to final editing and completion because of all the impending certification changes that may need to be considered.
3. Christina Linder reported that at the October meeting Dr. Russ Joki of the University of Idaho Boise Center will present to the Commission a course proposal for an ethics review course.
4. A school psychologist representative made a presentation to the committee relating to the fact that Idaho is one of the two states in the nation where the school psychologist internship requirement for hours is well below the national average. Idaho requires 300 hours, and all other states, with the exception of Alabama, require 1,200 hours. Certification and Professional Standards Commission staff members will put together language for changing that requirement for Standards Committee preview at the October meeting. This issue is not time-sensitive, as our schools are already requiring the 1,200 hours of internship.
5. During the 2007-2008 academic year, standards in the following areas will undergo a content review – communication arts, psychology, school counselors, school psychologists, and school social workers. Christina Linder added that not only will a group of teachers and content specialists convene to review each of those standards areas, but every district and principal is being asked to recommend an appropriate person(s) to serve in a smaller group that will preview and brainstorm the core teacher standards.
6. The committee spent time discussing the current requirements for endorsements in Idaho and the need to revise the language specifying that in order for Idaho to become more inclusive of people who are already highly qualified (see **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**, page 2, item 1). There will be further discussion on this issue at subsequent Standards Committee meetings.

7. Christina Linder made a presentation to the committee regarding her certification/recertification teacher attrition data-collecting project and the needed funding for that (see **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**, page 4, item 1, paragraph 2). As an information item, Becky Ford reported that funds would be provided for research and data collection to track teacher preparation programs and length of employment, which would require hiring the FoxPro consultant to revise the software and to hire a temp for approximately three days to input this data for teachers hired in the last five years. Funds are available from the Project Consultant FY08 line item for this project.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Proposed Certification Language Change**

Christina Linder discussed the fact that what is given teachers can be referred to as a license, credential, or certificate, and she suggested that one of the three words be chosen to use consistently. Commission members tentatively agreed to use “certificate” for the time being, and a final decision on the word to be used will be made at the October meeting.

### **State Board Meeting Attendance**

Loretta Stowers tentatively agreed to attend the State Board meeting in Lewiston on October 11-12. Sue Skeen agreed to check to see if she would be able to attend the State Board meeting in Pocatello on December 6-7.

### **Lodging Site for Out-of-Town Commission Members**

It was decided that out-of-town Commission members would stay at Hotel 43 while in Boise for Commission meetings.

### **Budget Subcommittee Membership**

Since Don Soltman will no longer be on the Commission and on the Budget Subcommittee after the current academic year, Sue Skeen and Stephanie Olsen agreed to transition onto the Budget Subcommittee for purposes of continuity.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

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Mary Jane Markland, Secretary  
Professional Standards Commission

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Christina Linder, Administrator  
Professional Standards Commission